

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for evaluating a boot source in a computer system having a processor comprising:

determining the boot source used by the processor each time the computer system boots, the boot source determining further including writing an identity of the boot source, the identity of the boot source including a location of a particular number of instructions initially executed;

and

allowing the boot source to be specified once as a known boot source.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the known boot source allowing step further includes:

specifying that the known boot source to be a FLASH boot source.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the specifying step further includes:

writing the identity of the FLASH boot source in a write-once register which identifies the boot source for future boots.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the determining step further includes:

writing the identity of the boot source in a register each time the computer system boots.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

checking the boot source determined to ensure that the boot source is the known boot source.

6. (Currently Amended) A system for evaluating a boot source in a computer system having a processor coupled with a boot source, the system comprising:

a first register for storing an identity of the boot source used by the processor each time the computer system boots, the identity of the boot source including a location of a particular number of instructions initially executed; and

a second register for allowing the boot source to be specified once as a known boot source.

7. (Original) The system of claim 6 wherein the computer system includes a bridge coupling the processor with the boot source and wherein the first register and the second register are located in the bridge.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein the bridge is a south bridge.

9. (Original) The system of claim 6 wherein the known boot source is written only once to the second register.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9 wherein the known boot source is a FLASH boot source.

11. (Original) The system of claim 6 wherein the identity of the boot source is written to the first register each time the computer system boots.

12. (Original) The system of claim 6 wherein the processor is capable of checking the boot source stored in the first register to ensure that the boot source is the known boot source.

13. (Canceled).

14. (Canceled).